Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-11 ISO-00 IO-14 OMB-01 AID-20

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 DPW-01 DRC-01

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R 240846Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 515

INFO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMCONSYL MEDAN

AMCONSUL SURABAYA

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

USDEL JEC PARIS

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

CONFIDENTIAL JAKARTA 1025

EO 11652: GDS TAGS: ID VS

SUBJ: GENERAL SUMITRO ON RELATIONS BETWEEN INDODEL AND

US EMBASSY SAIGON AND US POLICY IN VIETNAM

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

1. SUMMAR: DURING MY FAREWELL CALL JANUARY 23 ON DEPUTY ARMED FORCES COMMANDER GENERAL SUMITRO, HE SAID CLOSE RELATIONS BETWEEN INDODEL AND US EMBASSY IN SAIGON HAD DETERIORATED. HE ALSO MENTIONED IMPRESSION IN GOI THAT US HAS DECIDED TO LEAVE THE VIETNAMESE ON THIER OWN HEREAFTER. I SAID THERE MUST BE MISUNDERSTANDING, AND AFFIRMED US DESIRE TO CONTINUE ASSISTING SOUTH VIETNAM AND CAMBODIA. I ALSO NOTED THAT AMBASSADOR MARTIN AND EMBASSY SAIGON CONFIDENTIAL

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HAVE HIGHEST REGARD FOR INDODEL AND WISH IT TO

CONTINUE PLAYING ACTIVE ROLE IN ICCS. SUMITRO SAID INDONESIA WILL CONTINUE PARTICIPATION IN ICCS, AS A "DUTY" IT MUST PERFORM. END SUMMARY

2. SUMITRO COMMENTED THAT THE CLOSE RELATIONS BETWEEN US EMBASSY IN SAIGON AND INDONESIAN ICCS CONTINGENT AND ITS LEADER, GENERAL DHARSONO, HAD DETERIORATED, AND THAT THIS SEEMED TO HAVE COINCIDED WITH APPOINTMENT OF THE NEW US AMBASSADOR TO SAIGON. SUMITRO SAID HE AND SOME OTHERS IN GOI EVEN HAD THE IMPRESSION THAT THE US HAD DECIDED ON A NEW POLICY IN VIETNAM-ONE WHICH WOULD LEAVE THE VIETNAMESE VERY MUCH ON THEIR OWN.

3. I TOLD SUMITRO THERE MUST BE SOME MISUNDERSTANDING; AND THAT I MET WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER AND AMBASSADOR MARTIN IN NOVEMBER AT THE CHIEFS OF MISSION CONFERENCE AND COULD THEREFORE ASSURE HIM OF THE STEADFAST DESIRE OF THE US TO BE OF ASSISTANCE TO SOUTH VIETNAM AND CAMBODIA. I SUGGESTED THERE MUST ALSO BE SOME MISUNDER-STANDING AMONG INDONESIAN ICCS LEADERS OR PERSONNEL, AND ASSURED SUMITRO THAT I KNEW AMBASSADOR MARTIN AND OUR EMBASSY IN SAIGON HAVE THE HIGHEST REGARD FOR AMBASSADOR DHARSONO AND INDONESIAN ICCS PERSONNEL AND WANT INDONESIA TO CONTINUE PLAYING THE STEADFAST, ACTIVE AND HELPFUL ROLE IT HAS SO FAR PLAYED IN THE ICCS, AND THAT WE WOULD CONTINUE TO HELP THEM IN ANY WAY WE COULD, SUCH AS BY SHARING INFORMATION. SUMITRO SAID NOTHING TO INDICATE THAT INDONESIA WAS CONSIDERING REDUCING ITS ROLE IN THE ICCS; ON THE CONTRARY, HE SAID INDONESIA'S PARTICIPATION IN THE ICCS IS FOR "STRATEGIC" REASONS AND IS A DUTY INDONESIA MUST CONTINUE TO PERFORM. **GALBRAITH**

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